



VALUE ORIENTATION IN EDUCATION: PROSPECTS AND CHALLENGES

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ABSTRACT

Values are those characteristics of human beings that provide them motivation and guidance throughout their lives. It is considered as the guiding principles of life that govern behaviour at the core of the personality. Today there is almost a public debate on the erosion of values. Newspapers, magazines and other news media are flooded with the news of immoral and criminal activities which are creating serious threats for the smooth survival of mankind. There is a general feeling that our present system of education is not quite effective in inculcating the right values among the young generation. It is becoming more materialistic day by day and value traditions are being slowly given up. Education is a powerful instrument of social change and human progress. Value orientation in education means inculcation of discipline, a sense of humanism and a deep concern for the well-being of others and the nation among the students. Value orientation in education seeks to nurture ethical development, including the values, attitudes, and skills required for living in harmony with oneself and with others, including nature. Incorporating Value orientation in Education will result in growth of character, growth in virtues like self-control, tolerance, selfless service, practice of prayer, harmony, to love all people, to help them in need & respect them etc. In this paper, an attempt has been made to conceptualize the value orientation in education, its prospects and challenges. The methodology of this paper is descriptive and required informations are collected from different secondary sources like books, research articles, different government documents etc.

KEYWORDS: Value orientation, education, prospects, challenges.

1. INTRODUCTION:

Value means the principles or standards of behaviour, one's judgement of what is important in life. It may be described as a system of personality traits which are in harmony with the inner nature of an individual and which are in accordance with the values approved by the society. Values are generally loaded with affective thoughts about ideas, objects and behaviour etc. A value is the part and parcel of the philosophy of an individual and that of its educational system of the nation. Values are those characteristics of human beings that provide them motivation and guidance throughout their lives. It is considered as the guiding principles of life that govern behaviour at the core of the personality. It is universal in nature and produce behaviour which is beneficial both to the individual and to the society. Values are not the property of any religion or any philosophy or any nation, they are the essence of healthy relationships and are essential for growth in any country. The values contribute towards all round development of society and the country by influencing our thoughts and actions and motivate us to progress on a right path.

Now days, it becomes a matter of great regret that gradually we are losing our values. Today there is almost a public debate on the erosion of values. Newspapers, magazines and other news media are flooded with the news of immoral and criminal activities which are creating serious threats for the smooth survival of mankind. So, it becomes important for all the members of the society to understand the nature of values and factors responsible for its formation and development. There is a general feeling that our present system of education is not quite effective in inculcating the right values among the young generation. It is becoming more materialistic day by day and value traditions are being slowly given up. The prime objective of education today is no longer the formation of character and promotion of values, rather the emphasis is on promotion of technical knowledge, skills, and technologies for material progress. The students of today are primarily inclined towards the fulfilment of material greed. Value orientation in education seeks to nurture ethical development, including the values, attitudes, and skills required for living in harmony with oneself and with others, including nature. In the classroom, value education aims to develop skills, attitudes, knowledge with co-operative and participatory learning methods and an environment of tolerance, care, and respect.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

The following are the objectives of the present study:

- (i) To know the meaning of Value orientation in education.
- (ii) To study the prospects and challenges of Value orientation in education.

3. METHODOLOGY:

The methodology of this paper is descriptive and required informations are collected from different secondary sources like books, research articles, different government documents etc.

4. DISCUSSION:

4.1 Value Orientation in Education:

Value orientation in education means inculcation of discipline, a sense of humanism and a deep concern for the well-being of others and the nation among the students. This can be accomplished only when we instil in the children a deep feeling of commitment to values that would build this country and bring back to the people pride in work that brings order, security and assured progress with respect. Value orientation is integral to all stages of upbringing, formal education, interaction between individuals and social groups. It should be a process of developing the spirit of rational enquiry and self discovery which are set according to the ever-changing needs of the society and the nation. Value orientation in education is not a sphere of activity distinct from other activities.

The values make the personality of a person and present a true perspective growth of the individual, family, society, nation and the humanity. However, values are either innate or acquired. They are virtues, ideals and qualities on which actions and beliefs are based. They tell us to what extent a society or nation has developed itself. Value orientation in education is important to assist everyone in improving the value system that he/she holds and put them to use. Values are guiding principles that shape our world outlook, attitudes and conduct. Being social animal it is the prime duty of every human being to uphold the various types of ethics in life, such as cultural, universal, personal and social values.

Education is a powerful instrument of social change and human progress. It is also a powerful tool to cultivate values in an individual. Incorporating Value orientation in Education will result in growth of character, growth in virtues like self-control, tolerance, selfless service, practice of prayer, harmony, to love all people, to help them in need & respect them etc. Value orientation in education helps in the development of social, moral, aesthetic and spiritual sides of a person which are often undermined in formal education. It teaches us to preserve whatever is good and worthwhile in what was inherited from our culture. Value orientation in education does not mean value imposition or indoctrination rather it educates us to accept respect, the attitude and behaviour of those who differ from us. Value orientation in Education is the much debated and discussed subject in the present scenario of education in India. Perhaps in the coming years, the main purpose of any education will go with value orientation.

4.2 Prospects and Challenges of Value Orientation in Education:

Value education has become a challenging concern in the modern contexts. In general, we observe remissness in moral values in today's era of competition and survival. Modernization has led to the emergence of high life style and made man rich in materialistic sense but deteriorated the ethical fiber in the society. People become more selfish and hunger for money and power. In today's multi-cultural and multi-racial society, with its changing social norms and expectations, it can be difficult for a young person to know what is right or what is wrong. Children are turning juvenile delinquents due to their exposure to mass-media in the era of digitalization.

Due to lack of values they adhere to whatever is shown in the TV and on net ruin-

ing their life. Family disorganization has made them astray. Parents are busy pursuing their careers and children are taken care by day care centres. Due to this value education is not imparted to these children. They become drug addicts, consume alcohol, gamble and enter into anti-social activities. So, it is necessary to give importance to human values in the present era of globalization.

Value orientation in education is highly needed in our modern society because our lives have become more miserable. Though the quantity of education has considerably increased, but the quality has decreased. Only few civilized people are producing in spite opening of many new institutions. Degrees are available for all, but the dignity has gone down. Trained people are producing from many institutions, but sincere and dedicated people are very few in number. Many books are written; much research is done; many professional achievements are attained, but humanity is threatened. The number of educated people has reached at a high level, but murder, hatred, and selfishness have spread out like wildfire everywhere. Therefore, we need Value orientation in Education. Value education is essentially 'Man Making' and 'Character Building'. It is the process by which people transmit values to others. Values are standards or principles considered important in life and foundation of human existence. Without the knowledge of values society cannot sustain. Values tell a man to differentiate between good and bad, what one should do and what one should abstain from and make our life meaningful. Due to paucity of values in the present generation the curriculum must give importance to value education. Value orientation is very relevant in almost all the fields concerning human activity.

Values provide a moral foundation for successful living and value education is vital to recognise the universality of human aspirations. Value education teaches the common language of humanity and also helps in promotion of understanding and increased tolerance. It is generally accepted that value orientation in education can help to reduce human right violations and contribute to building a peaceful society. Value orientation in education is supposed to help in minimise corruption in almost all fields of life. The present day youth with its potential concentrates only on learning the academic subjects and the course curriculum is full of content of techno informative data consisting of facts, figures, theories and laws etc. which poses a challenge to those who are concerned with the all round development of the children through education. Thus the major challenge of the modern education system is how to make value education effective and interesting to the modern youth.

6. CONCLUSION:

A value based educational system is an integral part of human intellectual development. Values add quality to life. Human values are closely integrated with human life. They are intertwined with our day to day chores. Values are the regarded desirable and important guiding principles that play decisive role in making the direction of life. We can't survive and enjoy life in the world in the peaceful manner without human values. Value orientation in education is an unavoidable reality for social progress. Education has played an important role in the inculcation of values. National Policy of Education 1986 also stressed value education. National Council for Educational Research and Training is further working in the implementation of value education in schools. Values have social, psychological, economic, spiritual and philosophical aspects.

Teachers play an important role in the nation building by the formation of character of the students. It is for the teacher to identify and select values and to decide how to integrate them naturally in the process of teaching a subject to facilitate value inculcation. Stories, legends, anecdotes, fables and biographies have to be selected to suit the age group so that context of value and purpose to be served can be used effectively to teach language and inculcate values simultaneously. A number of activities well planned and presented through selected context that appeal to the target group can facilitate the inculcation of values.

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